

Rising Star: Cahill Gordon's Brock Bosson

By **Al Barbarino**

Law360 (July 9, 2021, 3:49 PM EDT) -- Brock Bosson of Cahill Gordon LLP helped usher in a landmark \$282 million anti-corruption deal between Walmart and U.S. authorities, one of the achievements that earned him a spot among compliance practitioners under age 40 honored by Law360 as Rising Stars.

THE BIGGEST DEAL OF HIS CAREER:

On June 20, 2019, Walmart Inc. agreed to pay more than \$282 million to settle Foreign Corrupt Practices Act allegations by U.S. authorities, a deal struck thanks in part to the work of Bosson and his team at Cahill Gordon.

Bosson began leading the firm's Walmart team in 2017, helping to oversee the global enhancement of Walmart's compliance program, an expansive global internal investigation and all communications with government agencies on behalf of the company's audit committee.

He called it "a privilege" to represent Walmart's audit committee, noting that he worked directly on implementing program enhancements across more than two-dozen countries.

"With Walmart being the biggest private employer in the world, it was just an unparalleled platform for an anti-corruption program," Bosson said.

OTHER NOTABLE CASES HE'S WORKED ON:

Bosson is a member of the Cahill Gordon team that advises Brookfield Asset Management on its mergers and acquisitions activity, as well as bribery and corruption matters.

The work has included providing pre-acquisition counsel on the firm's \$559 million July 2020 acquisition of Solatio in Brazil, which set into motion plans to build the largest solar power complex in Latin America.

"My work in the past year has been particularly busy for pre-acquisition

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Brock Bosson
 Cahill Gordon

Age: 39
 Home base: New York
 Position: Partner
 Law school: University of Tennessee
 First job after law school: Military prosecutor and special assistant U.S. attorney with the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps

M&A and due diligence and post-acquisition compliance integration," Bosson said. "I really enjoy the challenges that come up, learning about a target company, understanding its compliance infrastructure and unique risks, and then developing a phased, risk-based compliance integration program."

WHAT MOTIVATES HIM:

Bosson's work involves helping companies develop and optimize procedures related to vendor due diligence, one of the many high-risk areas his practice addresses.

The work not only saves businesses time but serves as an anti-corruption and fraud prevention tool, he said.

"My motivation for compliance is not just to be providing something that preserves value but to help the company embrace compliance as something that gives their business an advantage," Bosson said. "Local managers actually sleep better at night when they have a sophisticated, reliable and responsible sourcing process."

WHY HE'S A COMPLIANCE ATTORNEY:

Bosson's father was a small business owner involved in the trucking industry in Knoxville, Tennessee, giving Bosson a "front-row seat to how the challenges can come to a business from all sides."

Those challenges ran the gamut from contract disputes and financing issues to employee misconduct. He also saw firsthand how the "performance and health of a business can affect numerous people and families."

"Growing up, I thought of the law as a way to be a multi-dimensional problem solver for business," Bosson said. "I feel fortunate to have been an adviser to companies and funds big and small, across business lines, and across legal and compliance areas."

— As told to Al Barbarino

Law360's Rising Stars are attorneys under 40 whose legal accomplishments belie their age. A team of Law360 editors selected the 2021 Rising Stars winners after reviewing more than 1,400 submissions. Attorneys had to be under 40 as of April 30, 2021, to be eligible for this year's award. This interview has been edited and condensed.